

CC 491 (3) SHIFNAL

Shifnal Rural District Council



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# REPORT

on the

## Health and Sanitary Circumstances

of the

## Shifnal Rural District

for the Year 1948

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# SHIFNAL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1948.

*Chairman :*

MR. B. HOUGH.

*Vice-Chairman :*

MR. F. W. HALL (Chairman of Council).

*Committee :*

MISS M. O. STIRLING,

MESSRS. R. B. KIRBY,

G. E. PHILLPOT.

T. PARRY,

W. O. HUGHES,

A. T. POINTON,

T. MORRIS,

REV. E. E. WRIGHT,

REV. R. A. GILES.

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*Staff :*

W. A. M. STEWART, (Medical Officer of Health).

N. E. WORSALL, (Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector).

W. R. SMITH, (Clerk/Pupil).

# Shifnal Rural District Council

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This Report follows the pattern of that of 1947. An omission is that concerning diphtheria immunisation which service has now passed completely under the control of the County Authority. Provision has been made for the reporting of such cases of food poisoning as occur during the year and which are reported to the Ministry of Health in the weekly returns : no cases of this nature were brought to notice in the period under review.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever showed a slight increase in frequency, but cases generally were of a mild nature and were in most instances home nursed. Measles was prevalent, but Whooping Cough outbreaks were limited. One case of Infantile Paralysis occurred but Diphtheria has been completely absent.

## Vital Statistics.

### BIRTHS.

The Birth Rate compares favourably with that of England and Wales, but the Mortality Rate in this group is high, and higher than that of 1947.

### GENERAL DEATHS.

This Rate is very good and below that generally prevailing.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The Total on the Register shows a rise which has progressed in recent years. The deaths from this disease have been confined to the group of pulmonary infection and have accounted for four victims.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The work of righting the deficiency in housing, the shortage of which is attributable to the war period, progressed and in the District of Albrighton it can be said that the most urgent needs have already been met. The Sanitary Inspector has given much time to the direction of the main services and his attention has been devoted particularly to re-organising the scavenging service and discharging duties under Civil Building Regulations and Town and Country Planning Acts.

In presenting this Report the Medical Officer of Health takes this opportunity of thanking his Colleagues for their courtesy and continuous co-operation in the working of the Department and in the compilation of this Report.



## SECTION "A."

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	39,600
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population	..					10,150
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1947) according to						
Rate Books	..	..	..	..	..	2,603
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	68,954
Sum represented by one penny rate	..	..	..			280
Persons per Acre (calculated on population)	..	..				·25

#### POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Registrar General's return for 1948 shows an increase of considerable dimensions. In the Albrighton area there is every room for belief that this should be maintained, but at Shifnal this is not the case. Again in Albrighton the people, as has been stated elsewhere, are reasonably housed and the Authority should be well able to deal with any enlargement. Generally over the whole Area the social conditions are satisfactory, although the seasonal claim for swimming baths again presents itself. It would seem that there is still room for the provision of the less robust recreational facilities, especially for Sundays, a plea which was made in last year's Annual Report. The lack of cinema facilities in Albrighton again comes to mind. In Shifnal the sporting world has its attention drawn to cricket, which in the coming year enjoys the Club Centenary.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics.

#### LIVE BIRTHS.

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Legitimate	..	..	118	99	217
Illegitimate	..	..	11	8	19
Totals	..		129	107	236

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population .. .. 23·3

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales) .. .. 17·9

#### STILL BIRTHS.

			<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Legitimate	..	..	1	2	3
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..		1	2	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births .. .. 12·6

## DEATHS.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Total number of deaths ..	56	43	99
Death Rate per 1,000 of population .. ..			9·8
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) ..			10·8

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

All Infants per 1,000 live births .. ..			63·6
All Infants per 1,000 live births (England and Wales) ..			34
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live legitimate births ..			55·3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live illegitimate births ..			157·9
Total number of Infant Deaths.	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Legitimate .. ..	11	1	12
Illegitimate .. ..	2	1	3
Deaths from :			
Cancer (all ages) .. ..			14
Measles (all ages) .. ..			—
Whooping Cough (all ages) .. ..			—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. ..			1

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Under this heading there were no deaths.

## CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Tuberculosis (all forms) .. ..			4
Whooping Cough .. ..			—
Measles .. ..			—
Diphtheria .. ..			—
Maternal Causes .. ..			—
Cancer .. ..			14
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions .. ..			5
Heart Disease and Circulatory Disturbances .. ..			38
Respiratory Diseases .. ..			7
Influenza .. ..			—
Nephritis .. ..			3
Premature Births and Congenital Malformations .. ..			10
Diabetes .. ..			—
Abdominal Disease .. ..			2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. ..			1
Violence .. ..			6

## SECTION “ B.”

### General Provision for Health Services in the Area.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The year witnessed the end of the Council's jurisdiction over the local service when the ambulance came under Donnington control, although the office caretaker continued to drive the vehicle. 216 journeys were made and 5,629 miles covered. The vehicle is still housed at Shifnal.



## MORTUARY SERVICE.

There have been no proposals to alter the general mortuary arrangements. These are at the Shifnal Cottage Hospital and the Shifnal Institution. The latter accommodation is used by that body only.

No accommodation is available at Albrighton.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Burial of persons dying without adequate means or known relatives has become a local authority responsibility. Arrangements have been made by the Health Department to meet this contingency, but few cases are expected to need this service.

## HOME HELPS.

This service has been developed under the County Authority and functions in the neighbourhood. So far a centre has not been established in this Area.

# SECTION "C."

## Refuse Collection and Disposal.

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

No. of Parishes in District. 14.

No. of Parishes where refuse is collected. 14.

Methods of Collection. *Direct Labour.*

Method of Disposal. *Controlled Tipping.*

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The collection of refuse throughout the district began in 1948 with weekly collections in Shifnal and Albrighton and visits every 10—12 days elsewhere. After several adjustments involving timing the men, the daily runs were eventually worked out in satisfactory detail and all except the more isolated dwellings are now served. Generally speaking owners and occupiers of out of the way houses manage to dispose of refuse satisfactorily, but nevertheless they have a perfect right to demand a service since the rates cover refuse collection. Such a demand cannot be met economically and to deal with the situation the Council authorised the issue of additional bins without charge, and collections are made at monthly intervals.

Provision of dust bins by the Council allowed parishes to be brought in systematically, while the operation of the bin-for-bin system of collection in the 12 additional parishes meant two men carried out work which otherwise would have required three men.

The bin-for-bin system has not yet been instituted in Shifnal and Albrighton in view of the fact that more than half the containers in use do not belong to the Council, besides being of varying types and sizes. This position will alter in due course and labour saved thereby should partially counter balance extra work arising from new building. Supply of bins, slow initially, is now satisfactory.

No. of bins purchased	1,997
No. of bins on issue	1,629
No. of bins in stock	368

New vehicles purchased by the Council have given reliable service save in one or two instances of faulty workmanship attributable, it is believed, to mass production methods. Weekly and daily maintenance has been satisfactorily performed by the two drivers with a consequent reduction in garage accounts. The Lewin Compressing Vehicle has lived up to expectations, but it is evident that full efficiency can only be achieved in built up areas using 5 men, including the driver. Almost complete absence of dust has been noticeable while the roof guard proved to be most useful for salvage, spare bins, etc. Mechanically the vehicle appears sound in the hands of the present driver but it would be foolish to risk employing an inexperienced man. On the other hand our 10 cubic yard Karrier has proved most satisfactory on country runs covering the whole day. During the winter months only by tightly packing and continually shovelling was it possible to take the full day's load on the Karrier. Due to the shovelling and generally to loading above the side boards, valuable time is lost during the shortest days. This fact, together with the continued erection of new houses and gradual absorption of more isolated dwellings into the scheme, will eventually force the Council to face two alternatives :

(i) Split the present runs and thereby lengthen periods of collection ; or

(ii) Provide an additional vehicle of the bantam type (for example).

Generally speaking the first alternative would lead to overflowing bins, experience having shown this to happen after Bank Holidays, mechanical breakdowns, adverse weather or sickness.

The old Karrier has been maintained by the Scavenging Department for use by all departments, as under :



## MILEAGE.

Scavenging	..	..	..	..	..	2,179	miles
Waterworks	..	..	..	..	..	1,884	"
Housing	..	..	..	..	..	194	"
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	23	"
Tong Huts	..	..	..	..	..	1,301	"
<hr/>							
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5,581	miles
Lewin (Mainly Shifnal and Albrighton)	..					4,546	"
New Karrier (Mainly Country areas)	..					7,874	"

## SALVAGE.

System. *With refuse collection using trailers.*

Personnel. *No additional.*

Storage. *Shed on refuse tip.*

Profit or Loss. *£295 devoted to rate relief during financial year ending 31st March, 1949.*

## COMMENTS.

Having regard to the National need, the Council has undertaken the collection of waste paper, scrap iron and rags. In order that the rates shall benefit to the maximum, no special arrangements for salvage collection are made but any salvage forthcoming is removed at the time the bins are emptied. Shops and other business premises have responded extremely well to the appeals issued by the Public Health Committee Chairman, and as a result the National R.D.C. Target for the 1948-49 Salvage contest was exceeded by 11%.

Criticisms offered are of a minor nature. For example, repairs to trailers caused by heavy loads and rough roads are worrying at times, while the Lewin, operating in the main shopping areas at certain periods such as Xmas, becomes loaded with paper before taking on its full load of refuse.

## FINANCIAL AND OTHER DETAILS.

				<i>Weight.</i>			<i>Value.</i>			<i>Bonus paid to men.</i>		
				T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Paper	..	43	7	1			276	6	11	28	11	11
Rags	..	1	5	1			15	3	0	7	13	0
Metals	..	11	16	0			23	12	0	11	16	0
Bottles	..	149	gross				61	17	6	30	19	11
							<hr/>			<hr/>		
							£376	19	5	£79	0	10
							<hr/>			<hr/>		

It should be pointed out that the sale of bottles will be almost nil from now on.

Gross income for previous years was :

1947/48	..	..	£224
1946/47	..	..	£144
1945/46	..	..	£198
1944/45	..	..	£244
1943/44	..	..	£351
1942/43	..	..	£567

#### DISINFESTATION AND CONTROL OF VERMIN.

Rat Control. *Salop County Council, to whom all complaints are referred, continued to render useful service. Infestations of sewers on a minor scale were dealt with by the Council's staff ; refuse tips come under Salop County Council Contract.*

Person. *Although no verminous persons, as such, were dealt with, the presence of fleas in fairly large quantities in a number of houses became more evident during the year. The facts invariably came to light when the question of allocating council houses arose. While the Health Department is always ready to offer advice and in addition give free treatment, this is of little use in cases where tenants do nothing to help themselves. Such families exist in regrettable numbers and one is often tempted to "write off" such parents and seek assistance in the schools in the hope that succeeding generations can be taught the elementary facts of cleanliness.*

#### Water.

1. No. and source of water schemes of which the District Council is the Water Undertaker :

- (a) *Shifnal, deep bore.*
- (b) *Sheriffhales-Oakengates U.D.C. supply.*
- (c) *Beckbury, spring and Wolverhampton supply.*

No. of houses served by (1) 1,980.

(in parishes separately)

Population served by (1) 7,850.

2. No. and source of water schemes owned by private persons.  
*Two estates with own piped supply, remainder private wells and bore holes.*

No. of houses served by (2) 150.

3. No. of houses served by private wells 480.

4. No. of houses supplied by standpipe 40.

5. Has any water supply in the district been unsatisfactory in quality. If so, give particulars. *The private system at Badger has been found unsatisfactory by regular sampling.*

- 5a. Chlorination. *Apparatus improvised by the Water Engineer at Shifnal Waterworks remains in use.*

## 6. SAMPLING.

<i>Supply.</i>	<i>No. of Bact. Exams.</i>	<i>No. of Chem. Exams.</i>	<i>Before/After Chlorination.</i>	<i>Satis- factory.</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory.</i>
<i>Public.</i>					
Shifnal	5	—	After	5	0
Beckbury	3	—	—	2	1
Wolver- hampton	4	—	—	4	0
Oaken- gates	4	—	—	4	0
Badger	4	1	None	—	5
Harrington	1	—	After	1	0
<i>Private.</i>					
Priorslee	1	2	None	1	2
Doning- ton (Blue House)	1	1		—	2
Red Hill	1	1		—	2
Doning- ton (Lower Dairy)	1	1	None	—	2

7. Extensions or repairs to Existing Water Works. *Nil.*
8. Extensions or repairs to existing Water Mains. *Temporary supply laid from Hinnington to Beckbury.*
- 8a. New connections to homes, etc. *Miscellaneous in connection with new housing numbering 120.*
9. Difficulties met with during year in relation to works or mains — such as lack of supply, pressure, machinery, breakdowns, etc. *Main difficulties encountered in securing adequate pipes and fittings.*
10. New Water Works or Water Main Schemes inaugurated or work commenced. *Temporary main to Beckbury.*
11. General Observations. *The continued difficulties at Beckbury and Badger will be overcome by a permanent main from the Shifnal supply to be laid by direct labour in 1949. It is hoped to commence a scheme in 1949 to supply Gorsey Bank and Tong Havannah areas.*

### PUBLIC BATHS AND WASH-HOUSES.

The need for public bathing facilities remains ; this subject is commended to the Council during the coming years.

## GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS DEALT WITH DURING YEAR.

1. Premises in such a state as to be a nuisance (excluding structural matters). 19.
2. New closets or drains provided or old amended. 27.

## OFFENSIVE ACCUMULATIONS. 3.

## NUISANCES ARISING FROM WATERCOURSES, DITCHES, ETC. 6.

## PUBLIC LAVATORIES.

It is absolutely essential to secure the provision of public lavatories in Albrighton as early as possible. Difficulties of site have arisen which ought, in the general interest, be resolved. A demand for a second convenience in Shifnal is finding some support.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Every opportunity has been taken to secure some improvement in elementary school accommodation. The school authorities have co-operated but it is obvious that the future of some schools is so much "in the air" that major improvements cannot be contemplated. Questions of expense are apparently difficult to surmount where Church Schools are concerned. It would appear that overcrowding, consequent on the raising of the school leaving age, will only be solved as new buildings become available. Until that stage is reached it might be well from a health point of view if head teachers were asked to deliver lessons outside whenever weather permitted. The possibilities of droplet infection might thereby be reduced.

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. No. of houses dealt with by public sewers. 1,490.  
No. of Sewage works owned by District Council. 8.
2. No. of houses dealt with by private disposal works. 1,110.
3. No. of houses with privies or pail closets. 800.
4. Extensions or repairs to sewage works or sewers. *Minor repairs only.*

## OBSERVATIONS.

Twelve months have passed with a regrettable lack of progress towards solving the area's sewage disposal problems. The Consultants have been instructed to prepare schemes for the parishes of Kemberton, Sutton Maddock and Stockton (Norton), but there seems little hope of seeing the plans until details of the more urgent and longer awaited schemes at Shifnal, Beckbury and Albrighton, are forthcoming. Delay on the Consultants' part has caused keen disappointment and frustration in your Health Department.



From a drainage point of view it does not appear good policy to attempt further building in the Kemberton-Sutton Maddock area. The Norton system is efficiently maintained by the Apley Estate and cannot be expected to carry an influx of Council cottages without causing the present owners to object.

The serious position at Shifnal centreing around sludge drying and disposal difficulties, is steadily, but very definitely, becoming worse. Further the 15-in. outfall main from Park Street is liable to become undermined by streams at several points and fractures, more serious than that in 1947, cannot be ruled out. It is increasingly evident that some way must be found to bring the proposed new disposal works into being in the foreseeable future, otherwise the financial consequences might easily be serious.

With regard to Albrighton, three aspects remain unsolved :

- (i) storm water along Cross Roads from new housing estates, and storm and cellar drainage from High Street and Meadow Road Estate ;
- (ii) overloaded sewers from " The Crown " almost to the Disposal Works ;
- (iii) completion of disposal works.

In view of the apparent reluctance to embark on capital schemes and inability to reach even the drawing stage, the Shifnal idea of beginning at Disposal end is again commended to the Council. As is generally known the Ministry permitted (roughly) only two thirds of the Disposal Works to be completed. Your officers are of the opinion, bearing in mind new building — completed, begun and projected — that early steps should be taken to complete the works. Should the authorities again wish to phase the work, it would be of considerable assistance if the five new sludge beds were put into operation. This should resolve the problem of drying sludge during damp weather.

Further building at Beckbury means heavier pollution in the river Worfe, while the antiquated sewers are entirely unsuitable. It is hoped 1949 will see some progress at Beckbury.

Elsewhere the small installations serving Council houses have been increased in number and it is becoming impossible for the Shifnal sewerage men to adequately maintain these plants. The Housing Committee are asked to bear this point in mind when considering future expenditure. Both disposal plants at Kemberton continue to give trouble due to unsatisfactory outlets.

## SECTION "D."

### Housing.

#### NEW COUNCIL HOUSES, PERMANENT HOUSES.

Total No. of Houses in schemes sanctioned by the Ministry of Health :

(a) Traditional. 66.

(b) Prefabricated. Nil.

Total No. of Houses for which sites are prepared in 1948. 82.

Total No. of Houses completed. 86.

No. of Houses completed in 1948. 68.

No. of Houses in progress. 52.

New schemes inaugurated. 4.

Remarks. *Numbers of completed houses showed welcome increase, especially in Albrighton, but the obvious need in Shifnal showed little sign of being met, although roads and services have been provided.*

#### TEMPORARY HOUSES.

Remarks. *Provision of 28 temporary dwellings at Tong was completed by December, 1948 and a start made in converting 16 similar huts at Neachley — ex R.A.F. site.*

#### NEW PRIVATE HOUSES.

No. of plans for new houses submitted. 43.

No. of plans for new houses passed and licensed. 42 *passed*, 1 *rejected*.

No. of new houses completed. 21.

No. of new houses in progress. 13.

#### OVERCROWDING.

Six cases of overcrowding come to light, but of these two remain unabated. Overcrowding is most frequently caused by either a son or daughter marrying and creating an extra family. Again the chronic housing situation in Shifnal parish has often prevented satisfactory abatement, but nevertheless, it is to be regretted that young couples often postpone consideration of solving their housing problems until after marrying.

#### HOUSING REPAIRS.

No. of Houses inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts. 302.

No. of Inspections made for the purpose. 351.

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action. 67.

#### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 :

No. of Houses requiring repair. *Nil*.

No. of Houses rendered fit after formal action. *Nil*.



- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :  
No. of Houses requiring repair. 5.  
No. of Houses in which defects remedied after  
formal action. 4.

#### COUNCIL HOUSES.

Repairs and General Management. *Continued to be vested in the Housing Manager with three tradesmen employed to execute necessary repairs.*

Army hutments occupied by squatters and under supervision by District Council. *28 temporary dwellings converted and managed by the Council at Tong.*

During the year a review was made of the application list for Council Houses. This resulted in well over 150 applicants failing to renew their forms. A perusal of the list reveals that very few householder applicants appear to be living in overcrowded conditions. In the main overcrowding is caused by persons marrying and remaining with their parents.

All houses are let in accordance with a "points" scheme, adopted by the Council, but in spite of the fact that special emphasis is placed on overcrowding and bad housing conditions, War Service, Residence and employment points tend to outweigh actual housing need in some cases.

The allocation of houses by the Ministry of Health has been very small. At the present rate it will take some considerable time to satisfy the need for houses, especially in Shifnal parish.

Owing to the high cost of building many applicants will find it very difficult to afford the rents of the new houses, however this is a National problem to which no ready solution is apparent.

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Isolated caravans were licensed on particular sites, mainly in the neighbourhood of Cosford R.A.F. Camp. There is no real demand for caravan sites.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Slum clearance has again been overlooked. Hitherto it has always been a fair argument to concentrate first on giving homes to those without separate accommodation, but the stage has now been reached in certain parishes — notably Albrighton — where new houses are being let to occupiers of existing dwellings, the latter only to be re-occupied immediately, without the question of fitness being considered.

### SECTION "E."

#### Meat and Other Foods.

The District continues to be served from the central abattoir at Newport, and such meat is subject to re-examination, locally, as is required.

# FOOD PREMISES.

No. of Premises where food is sold, prepared or stored. 19.

No. of Inspections of above. 64.

No. of Premises registered under Section 14 (F. & D. Act, 1938) :

(a) Manufacture of meat products. 6.

(b) Ice-Cream. 8.

No. of Inspections of above. 17.

## CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

To serve Newport, Shifnal and part of Wellington Rural.

	<i>Cattle ex- cluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
No. killed (if known) ..	558	242	670	2552	87
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcasses con- demned .. ..	3	5	25	47	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	151	106	6	162	15
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .. ..	27.59	45.86	4.62	8.18	24.13
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcasses con- demned .. ..	1	13	1	—	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	34	133	—	—	2
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis .. ..	6.27	60.33	.149	—	8.89

1. No. of Slaughter Houses in district. 1.
2. No. of Persons Licensed to stun and slaughter animals in slaughter houses and knackers' yards. 15.
3. Action taken with regard to inspections of slaughter houses, shops, stalls, and vehicles, and places where food is prepared. *Weekly inspections of premises and carcasses carried out in the local bacon factory; visits to butchers' shops made at irregular intervals. In addition to the bacon factory, four private slaughter houses were authorised by the Ministry of Food to slaughter cottagers' pigs. While this procedure does produce a certain measure of control from an inspection point of view, in the interests of Public Health generally it must only be accepted on a temporary basis. In the absence of a Government Policy Statement affecting the future of slaughtering, both public and private, it would be unfortunate if the old and often undesirable system of private slaughterhouses, gradually became an accepted fact once again.*

*With regard to the Public Abattoir at Newport, one must acknowledge the willing co-operation and conscientious efforts of the local management and slaughtermen to produce food in keeping with the best standards. However, the time now appears opportune for the Local Authorities to give thought to the provision of more suitable premises, having regard to the possibility of some form of centralised slaughtering becoming an accepted fact. Quite obviously the present premises are unsuitable by reason of their location, size, construction and general layout; it is further obvious that very little can be achieved by repair and/or addition.*

*It would seem worthwhile during 1949 to explore the possibilities of providing a suitable abattoir either within Shifnal Rural District or some neighbouring district. Shifnal Councillors may well wish to take the lead in this connection and invite adjoining authorities to talk over the problem with a view to presenting a draft proposal to the Ministry of Food. In addition the Planning Authority ought to be asked within the next two years to earmark possible sites in the County Development Plan.*

#### FOOD POISONING.

No cases of this nature were brought to notice in the period under review.

# OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

<i>Tinned Foods Condemned.</i>				
		<i>No. of tins.</i>	<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
			<i>Kind of Food.</i>	<i>No. of tins.</i>
Meat	..	26	Soup .. ..	34
Fish	..	79	Jam & Marmalade	71
Fruit	..	307	Army Biscuits ..	4
			Pate de fois ..	4
Vegetables	..	895	Paste .. ..	16
Milk	..	220		

# FRESH AND DRIED FOODS CONDEMNED.

<i>Fish.</i>		<i>Fruit.</i>	
<i>Kind.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>Kind.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Plaice ..	3	Apricots .. ..	24
Dover Sole ..	5	Mixed Fruit ..	21
Kippers ..	3	Prunes .. ..	34
		Apples .. ..	132
		Oranges .. ..	90
		Grapefruit ..	39
		Peaches .. ..	26
		Dates .. ..	24
		Grapes .. ..	10
		Plums .. ..	2

<i>Vegetables.</i>		<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
<i>Kind.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>Kind.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Carrots ..	26	Eggs .. ..	95 doz.
Onions ..	165	Cheese .. ..	27
Tomatoes ..	39	Oatmeal .. ..	14
Beetroot ..	38	Custard .. ..	19½
Cabbage ..	20	Bacon .. ..	5½
Parsnips ..	23	Sausages .. ..	125
Watercress ..	2	Meat Pies (12) ..	—

## MILK.

No. of cowkeepers and milksellers on register. 130.

No. of premises. Cowsheds. 121.

Dairies. 15.

Milkshops. *Nil*.

No. of above cowkeepers and milksellers who hold licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936, in respect of :

	<i>Tuber- culin Tested.</i>	<i>Accred- ited.</i>	<i>Pasteur- ised.</i>
(a) Establishments of producers and bottlers .. .. .	1	1	—
(b) Establishments of producers only .. .. .	19	35	—
(c) Establishments of bottlers only .. .. .	1	—	—
(d) Shops and other premises not being the establishment at which the milk is produced or bottled .. .. .	—	—	—
(e) Supplementary licences to sell milk from shops or other establishment outside the area of the licensing authority .. .. .	1	—	2

No. of inspections. 57.

## COMMENTS.

The standard of milk production amongst Designated Producers was maintained and numbers of such producers shows evidence of increasing. Unfortunately the general standard amongst non-designated producers is not at all satisfactory in common with other counties. It is hoped that the new Milk Act will see the long-awaited end to this state of affairs.



## SECTION "F."

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937. PART I.

<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>No. on Regis- ter.</i>	<i>No. of Inspec- tions.</i>	<i>No. of Written Notices.</i>	<i>No. of Occup- iers Prose- cuted.</i>
(1) Factories in which 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 sections are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	16	20	2	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	2	3	—	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	18	23	2	—

### CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found.</i>				
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Reme- died.</i>	<i>Referred To By H.M. H.M. Inspec. Inspec.</i>	<i>Pro- secu- tions.</i>	
Want of cleanliness ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) insufficient .. ..	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	2	2	—	—	—



PART 8 OF THE ACT.

Outwork Sections 110 and 111.

COMMENTS. *Nil.*

**SECTION "G."**

**Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and Allied Diseases.**

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the Year, together with the number of Deaths :

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Cases notified.</i>		<i>Deaths.</i>
	1947	1948	
Scarlet Fever .. ..	14	18	—
Whooping Cough ..	6	19	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	2	1	—
Measles .. ..	72	114	—
Diphtheria .. ..	1	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ..	1	9	5
Dysentery .. ..	—	—	—
Enteric Fever .. ..	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Fever ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—
Erysipelas .. ..	—	3	—

**INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS.**

<i>Years</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>		<i>Whooping Cough.</i>		<i>Acute Polio Myelitis.</i>		<i>Measles.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
1	1	1	3	—	—	1	9	12
3	2	2	3	2	—	—	12	11
5	6	1	4	7	—	—	26	33
10	3	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
15	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
age un-known	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	12	6	10	9	—	1	52	62

Years	Pneumonia		Erysipelas.	
	M	F	M	F
0	1	1	—	—
5	1	—	—	—
15	2	1	—	—
45	3	—	2	1
65	—	—	—	—
age unknown	—	—	—	—
Total	7	2	2	1

#### SCABIES.

During the course of the year no cases have been brought to notice requiring institutional treatment.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of notified cases, on the Register at December 31st, 1948, and the comparative numbers for 1946 and 1947 are as follows :

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Pulmonary.	Non-	Pulmonary.	Non-	
		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
1946	22	23	27	30	102
1947	23	25	31	31	110
1948	24	26	32	30	112

#### NEW CASES.

*Pulmonary, 9. Non-Pulmonary, 1. Total, 10.*

#### DEATH RATES.

	Shifnal.	England and Wales.
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 population ..	·39	·43
Death Rate from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	—	·07
Total Death Rate (all forms) ..	·39	·50

There were four deaths from Pulmonary and none from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY TABLE, 1948.

Age Group.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
35-45	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65-	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	6	3	1	—	2	2	—	—

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer in 1948 was seven males and seven females. Total, 14.

Death Rate per 1,000,000 living	..	Shifnal.	England and Wales.
		1379	1816

(Signed),  
W. A. M. STEWART,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Date, 16th June, 1949.





